Driving Manual In Traffic



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Book Descriptions:

Driving Manual In Traffic

This technique becomes MORE, and MORE important as you drive larger and heavier vehicles. In most 5speed transmissions, you should be in 3rd gear a short distance after an intersection. You can shift from 5th gear to second for example. On newer vehicles, youll need to use the cancel button. I just went from fifth to third. And this road here is a bit winding. So, this persons going pretty slow. Although overworking or riding the clutch can be hard on the car, dont forget the advantages and control that a manual gives you. Proper technique of handling a manual in traffic will help preserve your clutch and give you assurance that the value of having a manual is not being undermined by the inconsistent flow of stopandgo traffic. Step 1 Keep the car in first gear when the traffic is steadily moving at speeds up to about 10 mph. Keep at least one car length between you and the car in front of you. Step 2 Depress the clutch, shift the car into neutral and release the clutch at times when the traffic stops or gets so slow that the car feels as if it is going to stall while in first gear. Let the car roll in neutral and use the breaks to gradually slow or come to a complete stop. Doing this will cause the clutch to wear out prematurely. Step 3 Depress the clutch, shift the car into first gear, release the clutch slowly while slightly depressing the gas pedal when traffic picks up again. Step 4 Shift the car into second gear when the traffic gets up to around 10 or 15 mph. The car can be kept in second gear from speeds between 10 to around 30 mph. At this point, start to allow the distance of two car lengths between you and the car ahead of you. Step 5 Shift the car into third gear and higher as needed if the traffic speeds up. Shift back down through the successive gears when the traffic slows or starts to come to a stop again. Do not put your car into neutral and simply coast while using your breaks to slow down from a higher

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jam, driving manual car in traffic, driving manual in heavy traffic, driving manual car
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manual in slow traffic, driving manual in rush hour traffic, driving manual in traffic,
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It is best to downshift while using the breaks to slow down. Tip Watch the tachometer gauge to help you determine when to upshift or downshift. References 10w40 How to drive a manual transmission how to drive stick About the Author This article was written by the It Still Works team, copy edited and fact checked through a multipoint auditing system, in efforts to ensure our readers only receive the best information. To submit your questions or ideas, or to simply learn more about It Still Works, contact us. Photo Credits five speed manual gear stick image by Sakala from Fotolia.com More Articles How to Shift a HarleyDavidson Fat Boy How to Drive a Manual Gear Shift on a. How to Drive a SixSpeed Manual. How to Drive a Car With a Tiptronic. How to Change Gears On Vehicles How to Use a Hand Brake Parallel Parking Instruction for the. How to Drive Uphill With a Manual. With the former, if the traffic is that bad then you could get away with having it in 1st for a while. With the latter, well, I can see how that may be a problem for some but it is not that much more of a stretch than pressing the accelerator or brake is it. A lot of stop lights are at the top of a hill. Sure, its a pain when going through, say, rush hour traffic in Chicago or Milwaukee. However, Id still rather drive a manual over an automatic. When I bought my truck back in August 04, I specifically searched out one with a manual. Last night I was driving and a lady passed me while she was talking on her cell phone and eating an ice cream cone. Other cities can try and lay claim to worse traffic

than LA if they like, but we know how to fucking sit and creep as well as anyone. My GTI has a pretty forgiving clutch though. Still, if you a hardcore commuter I wouldnt blame you for wanting an autotragic, thats not driving which is why youd want to drive stick to begin with. My wifes Passat is a slushbox and there are days when I definitely want to take her car.http://anesaportugal.org/upload/create-standard-operating-procedure-manual.xml

Edit If you can't handle hills then don't drive stick, that simple. Its not a big deal for most manual drivers though. I drove through SF recently and the inclines on some of the roads I used were steeper than in the pic chiangku posted. I had an auto, first time driving through that situation and it was scary. I basically kept my foot on the accelerator. It was depressed slightly so as to keep me there without moving me forward. With a manual I will think you could pull up the hand brake, step on brake and clutch, and when it is time to move, slowly lower the hand brake and at the same time releasing the clutch and stepping on accelerator Dont do that; its bad for the throwout bearing. Dont do that; its bad for the throwout bearing. The engine can handle a bit less than idle on the revs. If youre going slower than that, youre probably better off sitting still and waiting for a larger gap. Riding the clutch like that is a lot harder on the clutch than it is the throwout bearing. Especially with a performance clutch like a few known Arsians have. View image here I love driving my car, ever since the manual conversion. Especially since I figured out how to shift without the clutch. Hell, I can practically stay in first the whole time. I usually despise people with automatics because they tend to use their brake constantly. I cant stand driving behind them, cause all they do is tap the brake. If its actual stop and go, that can get irritating. I696 on the north side of Detroit is like this, you move a few car lengths then stop for a full minute. Youre forced to take the car in and out of gear a lot. It gets old fast. There have been times where its been annoying to have a stick, but only twice have I really wished that I had an automatic. Jaster Mereel Dont do that; its bad for the throwout bearing. They teach you a similar technique in driving school in Germany. It has helped me out the few times I really needed it.

All you do is have the handbrake up, and realease the clutch, add a little gas when the clutch is at the right point, and youll feel the car wanting to move; release the hand brake. Its really easy, and Ive never had any damage whatsoever to my transmissions. Granted, I dont do this every day. This sort of ties in with my local DC, no less observation automatics seem to make people lazy, or perhaps they compliment lazy people. Hard to say which came first. But you can usually tell when people are driving stick well dont hit the brakes all the time, are able to slow, turn, etc, without brakes, use signals, pay attention, and they seem to be more in tune with driving than slushbox drivers, who slam the brakes constantly, dont signal, eat, drink, chat, read, etc, and generally cant be bothered to, you know drive. Its telling that most people who drive stick dont pick out their vehicle because of the amount of cupholders it has. As well, its an insult to my gender, but Ive noticed that automaticdriving women are the absolute worst, and many admit it. They take some weird pride in not caring about learning how to drive well, like knowing how to drive would be an insult akin to being too feminist or something. Ive driven only stick for 20some years now, and I groove on driving. The only times Ive vaguely pondered an auto transmission is when Ive sat in literal stopandgo traffic for over 2 hours, and my left leg is cramping up. Dont do that; its bad for the throwout bearing. Whats your technique for starting on an incline if you dont want to roll back, then I learned to drive on a manual. The issue is one of just getting sick and tired of going through the whole process moving forwards two foot and then going through it all again, and again, and again, automatics are just easier. Does that make me lazy when considering that maybe my next purchase will be an automatic. Its just down to whichever you prefer.

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It doesn't matter how high really, the higher the revs, the faster youre going to pull away. You get a feel for whats reasonable when you get some more practice. You know youve got to the right point

when the back of the car starts to dip. 3. Simultaneously release the handbrake and bring the clutch up more gently, applying more revs if necessary. It doesn't matter how high really, the higher the revs, the faster youre going to pull away. You get a feel for whats reasonable when you get some more practice. You know youve got to the right point when the back of the car starts to dip. 3. Simultaneously release the handbrake and bring the clutch up more gently, applying more revs if necessary. But apparently holding the clutch down was bad. The problem is stoping while faced up a steep hill and trying to go forward. The only manual I ever drive has an E brake that doesn't seem to work. In Ashland, the vehicle stalled going up a hill in second gear and this was a very, very steep residential street. Pulled the hand brake and tried to get going, being careful with the clutch and gas. Vehicle stalled and rolled back into another vehicle who had pulled very close to my rear end. Thankfully, it was just a busted off license plate and insurance did not need to be involved. But the fact that the vehicle stalled in both first and second gear and that the hand brake did no good has left a bad taste in my mouth. Admittedly, this is a vehicle in desperate need of a few tuneups it will lurch in fourth gear on an onramp at highway speeds. Still, Im wary of trying. I plan to learn the heeltoe maneuver, though. Perhaps thatll help. You shouldnt have the clutch down for more than 10 seconds at a time, or so. It adds up quickly, now, 10 seconds is not a hard, fast rule. Its a general statement. If you've got the pedal depressed for more than 10 seconds, there is probably another way to do it. Its not to say that your transmissions gonna fall out if the pedal is down for 11.

2 seconds I dont know, I do it without thinking. Muscle memory, I guess, but my feet know what to do and they do it. Ill roll and inch or two, but Im certainly in no danger of smashing into anyone. If you roll backwards into the guy behind you, its his fault. The ebrake is on the floor near the clutch, so if you cant start on a hill without using an ebrake, youre screwed. Its extra fun because its old and clunky and the clutch is nowhere near as smooth as newer cars. Anyways, always driven manuals, and doubt Ill buy an auto until Im senile. If you roll backwards into the guy behind you, its his fault. Brilliant stratagem, sir. View image here Its still a pain in the ass to deal with, and if you rolled into someone and then drove off, it would probably be a hitandrun. The only time I actually use the parkingbrake trick is when trying to parallel park on steep hills in SF. Most other places, its not a problem, and you roll only an inch or two. I learned on manuals, and dont really understand the compalints people have with it. Even with stopngo traffic, its all just muscle memory. Once I realized it would be his fault and not my own, I wasnt scared and could comfortably roll back a few inches and go. One still needs to know how to operate a stick properly. So yes, it is a brilliant strategy. Nice attempt at a belittling remark though. Read our affiliate link policy. Ad Choices. Well, Im here to say that driving a manual in traffic isnt really that bad. Advertisement Now, you might be asking yourself what makes me so qualified to speak on this topic. Well let me tell you. I have driven a number of different commutes of various lengths with stop and go traffic through bridges, tunnels, freeway merges, toll plazas and various other hazards. The Bay Area has some of the worst traffic in the nation. According to a recent LA Times article the Bay Area ranks 3 rd worst behind only DC and LA.

Advertisement The key to driving a manual in traffic is to leave a large enough cushion between you and the car in front of you so you can use that space to coast until traffic lurches forward again. This way you can cruise in 1 st, and with smooth modulation of the gas pedal, its the only pedal you need to use. I will admit this system is not perfect. Sometimes traffic will come to a complete stop for long enough that you will use up all your cushion and have no choice but to stop and use the clutch. Jackasses making unnecessary lane changes will take advantage of your cushion and drive into it. Also, driving uphill in stop and go traffic makes it considerably harder but also that much more important to maintain a cushion. But despite all that if you maintain a proper cushion you might be surprised by how little you have to use the clutch in heavy traffic. My 535i will happily coast along in 1 st with the clutch completely out and no gas input until coming to an almost complete stop.

However my Civic will start to buck, doing its best lowrider impersonation, and feel like its going to stall much sooner than the BMW at low speeds. But even then its still manageable. This doesnt just apply to manual transmissions either. Leaving a cushion when youre driving an automatic is a good idea as well; its safer, smoother and more efficient. Advertisement Now what I really hate is driving a manual between an endless series of stop signs, which is slightly ironic since that perfectly describes my neighborhood. I suspect the stop sign manufacturers colluded with the city planners when developing the area so that it would consist almost entirely of stop signs with a few houses thrown in for good measure. The site may not work properly if you dont update your browser. If you do not update your browser, we suggest you visit old reddit. Press J to jump to the feed.

Press guestion mark to learn the rest of the keyboard shortcuts Log in sign up User account menu 33 Do you drive a manual in traffic every day My first three cars were all manual, but now Im considering going back to manual for the first time in 7 or 8 years. I really enjoy driving a stick, but Im worried that after a month Im going to be kicking myself and wishing I had just gotten an automatic. Edit Im not at all concerned about having to pay attention to shifting or worried that Ive lost my muscle memory and will be confused. Im concerned that constantly clutching will make the aggravation I feel in traffic even more annoying than it already is. Never regretted it. Depends entirely on car and your level of commitment. Id be bored to death if I had an automatic, I always look forward to driving. It takes a few weeks of dailydriving a manual before it becomes second nature and you dont even think about it any more. Its really no more or less annoying that dealing with the same traffic in an automatic. Last year after my car met an untimely end on the freeway I picked up an automatic with paddle shifters. Honestly when Im sitting in rush hour traffic on the freeway I dont miss the manual gearbox at all. Have for years. I drive a lot of autos at work and I always find myself happy to be back in my own car to fight through rush hour. This is my first time driving a manual in 15 years. No regrets, I actually find driving a manual more relaxing than driving an automatic in traffic. Its now rare, but I spent about 20 minutes in stopandgo traffic this morning, in the MX5. I find Im more annoyed by automatics than manuals. In the automatic, I must frequently have my foot on the brake. If stopped, my foot is on the brake and with some pressure to be sure the car doesnt accidentally roll. If moving, my foot may or may not be on the brake, depending on the speed. But in the manual, I get the car rolling in first, then put it in neutral and let it coast along.

Speed and timing varies by the behavior of traffic ahead. I give an occasional bit of gas in gear, then back to coasting. Maybe some brake from time to time, but not much. Im not constantly pushing on a pedal. Instead, Im mostly just sitting back, relaxing, calm. People rarely cut in in front of me. The result is Im less stressed and more atpeace is the manual. I realize thats not what its like for everyone, but thats been my experiences. Im quite happy commuting in a manual. I also have a manual and an automatic. Its easy and requires almost no effort. In my manual I simply use the clutch and change to second gear if necessary. Its a diesel, so there is typically no need to use neither accelerator or brake. This requires pretty much the same effort as in the automatic and I dont mind it one bit. Leave a gap and youll be fine. What else is there to do in traffic. Thats partly why I got the Colorado to daily. All rights reserved Back to top. Password Register TeamBHP FAQ New Topics New Posts Search Search Forums Show Threads Normal city driving conditions need not be a nightmare if some good driving practises, understanding of your cars power band and some common sense, all come together. Things like avoiding meaningless lane changes, anticipating slow down and refraining from upshifts, understanding engine breaking, knowing your cars low end, can help. In this day and age, automatics are the way to go in the urban jungle. Reasons are galore. Some might be. 1. Our never ending traffic jams and the resulting B2B Drive. Absolutely agreed. 2. A feeling that manuals are oldschool. Take the new age tech of automatic where available. Dont laugh, not everyone knows about the birth and evolution of automatics 3. Driving happens to be yet another activity, sometimes a mundane one, so make it as easy as possible. Only a few have an inherent love for machines and operating them 4. People today are in such high levels of stress, thanks to the pace

of the times we are living in.

Manual cars would only increase the stress.Let me at least get from one point to another in a relaxed manner. TC,CVT,AMT.whatever. 5. What if my driver doesn't turn up I can't yell or be yelled at in the jungle. While I am trying to do that, let the transmission at least spare me. The list can go on but, let me end it here. How do YOU drive your MANUAL car like AN AUTOMATIC. Keep pouring your experiences. P.s. there are some who curse their manual car purchase but, provided their daily drive has just a few jams, thanks to your tips they can go a little easy on themselves. A simple change in this habit can make life easier for most manual drivers. Another is anticipation on road, something that surprisingly comes to a very few. Keeping an eye on vehicle 1 or 2 cars ahead of you is enough to avoid most surprises. I am so attuned to this by now, that I instinctively move away from taller vehicles in front of me. That being said, the traffic situation in most major cities is so bad that nothing at all can help alleviate excessive clutch usage, so switching to automatic is increasingly the only logical option nowadays. Which means you should stick to the 1st gear alone while driving in slow moving traffic. Another way to enjoy driving a manual is to resign from your job in the big city and accept a simpler life in a small town. While you may not have much to look forward to, atleast nobody will miss those crawl fests for sure! With some clutch modulation, it was possible to start in third gear and go up till 80 in the same gear. Of course, the clutch life will be affected. But I did drive like this in my last clutch from about 90k to 1.2 lakh kms after which I sold it. Better to use a converter kit to convert car to AMT. Earlier discussion related to this topic Is it possible to drive without riding the clutch in India. Changing gears without using the clutch Convert a manual transmission car to Automatic.

After that I put the car in gear, let go of the clutch till I get the required momentum from the engine, then slot the car in neutral and let it coast again. The reduction in mental stress should be worth all the other problems. Regards Sutripta Peace of two pedal driving in a manual. Of course I have seen folk cribbing about the 45 minutes or so which a recharge will take. I thought that going in for a cup of coffee is the logical way. Also, we need some chargers which are roving, so that we are no forced to reserve about 20% of the juice for emergencies. If one wants to drive like an automatic, better to buy a proper automatic. Basically let gravity do the work till I get to level ground. After that I put the car in gear, let go of the clutch till I get the required momentum from the engine, then slot the car in neutral and let it coast again. This is the last thing that one should do while going downhill!! Staying one gear lower gives better traction and engine braking as well. You can ignore Gear Lever, but you can not do without using the Clutch pedal. Gear lever is not the bone of contention in manual tranny cars in heavy traffic conditions, its the CLUTH PEDAL. Also please note that there is no limit to Abusing and misusing a Car to save Individual physical and mental efforts. As a BHPian we encourage sensible driving, proper usage and maintenance. Please Delete you post. Thanks Quote Keep pouring your experiences. Quote The pleasure is inversely proportional to the density of traffic. Right sorry my mistake, I should have said light slopes. Not proper downhill slopes where it is absolutely necessary to stay in gear. Thanks for pointing that out! This led me to think deeply and resulted in changing my driving style in the city, all the while adhering to everyones safety. I am sure my stress levels and my cars too have come down as a result. In this spirit I have started this thread. Quote I have observed most people upshifting at the slightest bump in RPMs.

Which quite obviously negates leveraging either engine braking, or point and shoot overtaking maneuvers. A simple change in this habit can make life easier for most manual drivers. Keeping an eye on vehicle 1 or 2 cars ahead of you is enough to avoid most surprises.. two very valid points. Up shifting too early apart from losing the advantages you mentioned, also warrants a earlier downshift in our congested cities. Clutch wear and mileage loss guaranteed. Instead i stay in the same gear, maintain acceptable rpms, drive like an automatic and remember my upshift when things permit. Anticipation helps us plan to whether upshift or maintain the same gear. Quote It actually makes the

drive refreshing and the stress is reduced by 80% very well put. Seems impossible but doable. I know some people who schedule their appointments avoiding peak hours. Quote In my Cruze, I could manage with only the third gear in the city. Yes, I have done that. Proves those big engines can be fun on highways and also in the city. My 1st gen Figo being a smaller engine with its city friendly gearing ratios was a boon.3rd gear was employed most times for extended periods in moderate traffic.Felt i was driving an automatic. But I wouldnt start off in 3rd gear though whatever the engine capacity. Quote. I usually use just the clutch and brake to navigate my way in B2B traffic. Great to know that you use that.Most diesels today allow us to do that. Quote Also please note that there is no limit to Abusing and misusing a Car to save Individual physical and mental efforts. Thanks This is the 1st paragraph of my post explaining the topic. Now let us keep aside the bumper to bumper traffic situations here. Normal city driving conditions need not be a nightmare if some good driving practises, understanding of your cars power band and some common sense, all come together. What do you find misleading and vague. Can you please explain.

Good practices can eliminate stress of driving a manual in our congested cities. Things to avoid and understanding of the car I spoke of, contributes to sensible driving, proper usage and maintenance you are speaking of. Please understand that. While in traffic, I was thinking of what is the proper way to drive a manual car so that you minimize wear on the clutch. I rarely put it in neutral, except if I see the light ahead is red light and will take a while. Ive been driving manual for a little over 6 months now, but my heavy traffic experience is relatively little, and I want my clutch to last up to and over 200,000km at 147K nowpinch I looked it up on the net and, theres different techniques. My brother drives like me, and I didnt bother asking my friends who stick shift because theyre busy paying speeding and parking tickets Changing from 1st to neutral and then back to 1st again is probably going to put more wear than just holding down the clutch petal for a bit. I know EXACTLY how you feel. Its just proper use. It all has to do with RPMS. If your above.75 or atleast 1. Your perfect. Thats not bad, its just the engine and transmission connecting and moving now. It just moves your car based on rpms. So if you have perfect rpms, yourll move a decent amount. Enough to deal with the traffic and not need to constantly press the gas. Anyone else give it a go and let me know. I figured it out one day, when I was just sitting in the parking lot praticing. Now, be very careful, its alittle touchy because you have to be alittle over the engaging point not too much or you will kill it. New clutches, you have to be perfect. Past driver, EXPERIENCED Manual Driver, this clutch is BASICALLY New. All this just to move a few feet seems wasteful to meunsure, thats why Im wondering if theres better techniques. Some amount of slipping is going to be unavoidable in heavy traffic though.

I often use neutral if stopped for a length of time as holding in the clutch can wear out the throwout bearing. Throwout bearings are relatively strong though and this probably is not worth losing sleep over. I hate it! And yes holding the clutch causes damage to it, i neutral and let off clutch when at red light or etc. Dont ask me, but the way i do it, he siad its fine. They had me on the lift while i did it, and he was checking clutch, synchros and etc. Thats TOO far for the biting point. We are depending on the engine TO MUCH at that point. Usually just stopping by for guesitons, no one usually minds. Well, firstly, your engine at idle conditions wont even produce enough torque to move your car, which will cause it to stall for most vehicles. If it does not stall, I dont think running your engine at ridiculously low RPMs with heavy load during acceleration or holding speed is good for your engine. The only time you would do that is timing it so it hits the moment you release the brake on a reverse slope, but using the handbrake is probably better in that situation. Just dont go clutch dumping or revving it too high at nonfully engaged points. Experienced drivers can probably hold it at All such mechanical systems is inevitably subject to wear no matter how well you maintain it it is under stress at all times when youre driving and handles a couple hundred lbft of torque Constant, no slip at maximum. Theres a reason why a clutch is not 100% efficient as energy will be converted to other forms at some point Not always necessary at friction plates, but you get the idea. My dad

used to drive a manual Lancer for 8 years and drives it regularly and its good, but the clutch is inevitably 100% without wear. I take mine a bit better than him. Point being, it takes quite a bit to kill a clutch, unless youre releasing at 4000rpm and clutch dump. My transmission guy has been driving manuals and been in transmission for 20 years, i take his word for it.

IF something breaks he covers me becuase he recommended it. But, I only use it to crawl when i have no choice. Other then that I leave a big gap infront of me and dont move until I wnat to, if someone doesn't have patience to wiat, too bad, they can stay behind me. I know for slippery situations snow it can help, but I wouldnt do that every other day. That thing had a VERY heavy clutch, and a very short engagement. If you had spindly little legs youd be done within 5 minutes of traffic driving. My BMW now is light as a feather. Clutches aint fragile. Mind you, this was in a Volvo We were so close to its 200,000th. Oh, and we were 150 miles from home. Id just slip er into 4 low with the manual hubs unlocked and chug along at a snails pace. Im glad I have an automatic. Im glad I have an automatic. If youre used to driving a manual car in daily traffic jams it wont be hassle any more, just a habit. Im glad I have an automatic. Dont let this discussion turn you off. This really is just people looking for the absolute best way to do something. The advantages far outweigh the disadvantages the majority of the time. Dont let this discussion turn you off. The advantages far outweigh the disadvantages the majority of the time. Dont drive the car like its your last day on earth and you should be fine. Its the inbetween time that I wear it down. So people that balance a car on the clutch to stop it rolling backwards at traffic lights instead of using the brakes will wear their clutch too quickly. Sitting at lights with your left foot to the floor wont do any harm. I have a 20 year old Ford Fiesta 1.1 and its engine hasnt really got enough oomf to let me do that smoothly. With lowpowered cars, the engines revs will get too low and itll stutter and rattle like theres no tomorrow assuming it wont just stall. If you have a 2 litre turbo diesel though, your engine will be more forgiving and will let you pull off on just the clutch guite happily. Its easy! Sign in here.

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